



THE GRANGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 46

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A Word From Our Chairman

Spring is here, and the sisal carpeting will be removed!

Our talk on the Heritage Seed Program on Monday, April 23, although sparsely attended, certainly was inspiring and informative, even for those who do not have gardens, - such a beautiful day.

Dr. Lee Jolliffe, our consultant curator and museologist, is assisting us in the definition and terminology of our designations as Grange volunteers. This has been a very "fuzzy" area and not really defined. The executive feel that the word "docent" does not truly reflect what our experienced "guides" actually do. At the last Day Captains' meeting, I had asked all Day Captains to give me, in writing, their feelings and those of their day, on the words "Historic Interpreter", "docent" and "guides". Unfortunately, not every Day Captain has had time to do this. We hope to have this clarified and defined very soon.

I must ask you to please phone your Day Captain, or Peggy, if you are not able to staff your designated day - ahead of time if possible. Unfortunately, due to a decrease in visitors, our volunteers are feeling that it does not matter whether they are here or not - but it does!! The number of visitors is picking up with the nice weather. Also, each day is not carrying out the policy of sending one of their volunteers for a Sunday (and Monday - probably only once this year). I hope that this has just been forgetfulness.

Very sadly, I have extended our heartfelt sympathy to Kae Fogden (past Grange chairman), whose husband died; Mary Cormack (Friday), who lost her husband suddenly; and Judith MacCallum (formerly Wednesday), whose husband died in Quebec.

Happy Summer Holiday - yes, we still expect to be closed in July. See you ALL in August. Watch for our showcase in the Legislative Building this summer!

GRANGE VOLUNTEER ENRICHMENT

Florence Watts, our indefatigable volunteer training chairman, has arranged some lively and interesting events for our edification and entertainment, both inside and outside The Grange. Mark your calendar for:

Thursday, May 31, 1990, 9:00 am.

The Toronto Garden Club has had as two of its major projects the restoration of the gardens at Spadina House and Casa Loma. Two members of the Club will be on hand to give us a guided tour of both gardens, and it should be a morning of enchantment. Meet at the eastern entrance to Casa Loma. Cost - \$7.

Looking ahead - September 10 - A guided tour of Black Creek Pioneer Village. Details TBA.

Education - there will be three sessions in the fall exploring the theme "Interpreting Everyday Life". Supper at 5:00 pm. followed by lecture at 6:00 pm. as usual.

Monday, October 1. Loet Vos, Curator, Museum of Childhood.
"Children's Activities in the 19th Century"

Monday, October 29. Joyce Lewis, Grange Board Member
"Life as it was lived outside The Grange (by the unprivileged many)"

Monday, November 12. Tina Bate, Historian, Parks Canada.
"Domestic Offices and their functions. What did happen in the kitchen, pantry, larder, scullery and laundry?"

Florence works incredibly hard for us, so let's support her by a near as possible 100% turnout! It is part of our commitment as Grange volunteers to always strive to close the gap between enthusiastic amateur and professional historical interpreter, and the training sessions offer a valuable learning experience.

WHAT HAPPENED TO GUARDI IN THE MUSIC ROOM??

The two little Guardi paintings that usually hang in the Music Room, "Landscape with the Ruins of a Church Crossing" and "Landscape with a Ruined Arch", have not been spirited away by a gang of international thieves, or taken back by the AGO. They are on loan to the Vancouver Art Gallery for the exhibition "18th Century Venetian Art in Canadian Collections". This is a travelling exhibition, and has been seen at the Musée de Quebec, and is now at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre in Kingston until August.

HISTORY LESSON #1,582,372 - U.C. & C.W.

Are we all ready with our explanation when visitors query us about these mysterious letters? U.C. is Upper Canada, the predecessor of modern Ontario, and it came into existence following the defeat of France when the British Parliament passed the Constitutional Act of 1791. The Act divided the old province of Quebec into Lower Canada in the east, and Upper Canada in the west, along the present day Ontario-Quebec boundary. C.W. is Canada West, created out of Upper Canada by the Act of Union of 1840, and Lower Canada became Canada East. They both shared a single government and legislature. This situation continued until the British North America Act of 1867 and Confederation.

NORTH TORONTO PLANS CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS - NORTH TORONTO??

How many people know today that there was once the town of North Toronto? It came into existence in 1890 when the three unincorporated villages of Eglinton, Davisville and Bedford Park decided to merge. In the beginning the town of North Toronto was quite cut off from the city, and it was this lack of adequate public transportation plus financial problems that made the town vote in 1912 to join Toronto. This did not provide an overnight solution for in 1915 a group of disillusioned North Toronto ratepayers demanded to secede from Toronto. Obviously the revolt did not succeed, but it was 1922 before Yonge Street was paved above Eglinton.

For information on events planned to mark the centenary, contact Joan Sampson of the North Toronto Historical Society at 488-9939. North Toronto has changed tremendously since its rural and small town origins, but there are still many reminders of its historic past.

OUR AMERICAN VISITORS - HOW THEY LOVE US!

Miss Debi Vallela of Michigan visited The Grange on Saturday, March 24, and, later was moved to write:

"This past weekend I had the opportunity to travel to Toronto. I chose to visit the Art Gallery of Ontario. I am writing to compliment your staff at The Grange.

I was thoroughly impressed by the restoration of the home. You have done an outstanding job of preserving history. However, what made my visit to The Grange so memorable was the kindness and hospitality of your staff. They were very open and encouraging of my questions, and I was impressed by their knowledge of history as well as the past residents of the house. The women should be congratulated on doing such a fine job and on being so receptive to the public. Please extend my appreciation and thanks for helping to make my visit to Toronto both enjoyable and memorable. I'll be sure to recommend the museum to friends and I'll return the next time I am in town."

A REMINDER - THE GRANGE FALL LUNCHEON LECTURES

Another excellent series is planned with top-notch speakers and topics of importance in increasing our understanding and interpretation of the 19th century world.

Thursday, October 11 - Douglas Fetherling, Editor of the Kingston Whig Standard
Newspapers in 19th century Upper Canada.

Thursday, October 25 - Dr. Carol Wilton-Siegel, Canadian History Department, York University.
Politics at the time of William Henry Boulton

Thursday, November 8 - Dorothy Duncan, President, Ontario Historical Society
Social Customs in 19th century Toronto.

All this - and a delicious lunch for \$10 a lecture or the complete series for \$25.

WE HATE TO SEE YOU GO

Lois Traquair, Tuesday, to Bermuda for 3 years

Vera Coombs/Edmund, Tuesday, to the North West Territories, to Florida and wherever her camper takes her.

Hillary Stoddart, Saturday, to Montreal.

Our good wishes go with these 3 long-time volunteers. We are really going to miss them.

HELP WANTED - DON'T BE SHY

The editor of the Newsletter welcomes input from Grange volunteers. Any funny/interesting incidents while on duty? Any suggestions for subjects to be covered in future newsletters?

ATTENTION GARDENERS!

Elizabeth Chish is our new Special Events Chairman, and she is planning for Celebration Weekend already. She would like to produce a Grange potpourri, and has this request:

"Please collect a variety of petals from sweet-smelling flowers, roses, delphinium, pinks, lavender, etc., and seeds, and bring them to Elizabeth Chish in the fall. If more information is required, please call Elizabeth at 960-0003. NO EARWIGS, PLEASE!"

REQUESTED RECIPE

One of our Spring Luncheon/Lectures fell on Heritage Week this year so a special "Heritage" menu was devised from "The Cook Not Mad", the first cook book printed in Canada. One of the tasty treats served at the luncheon was squash pudding, and here, in response to many requests, is the recipe:

Winter Crookneck Squash Pudding

Core, skin and boil a large squash. Mash well after cooking. Cook 6 apples after paring and coring. Mash after cooking and mix with squash. Add $\frac{1}{2}$ cup dry bread crumbs - herbed bread crumbs and flavouring. Add 1 pint cream, 2 tbsp. white wine, 6 eggs beaten and strained, dash nutmeg, 1 tsp. salt, pepper to taste, 1 tbsp. flour. Beat all smartly together. Turn into a buttered baking dish 11" x 7". Bake 1 hour, 15 minutes at 350°. Let sit before cutting into squares.
